



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029**

Mr. Larry Lawson  
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
629 Main Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Mountain Run Fecal Coliform TMDL, Culpeper County

Dear Mr. Lawson:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region III is pleased to approve the fecal coliform TMDL for Mountain Run. This TMDL was submitted for EPA review on March 30, 2001 in accordance with section 303 (d)(1)(c) and (2) of the Clean Water Act. This TMDL was established to address an impairment of water quality as identified in Virginia's 1998 Section 303 (d) list. Virginia identified the impairment for this water quality-limited segment within the Rappahanock watershed based on exceedances of the fecal coliform water quality standard.

In accordance with Federal Regulations in 40 CFR §130.7, a TMDL must be designed to meet water quality standards, and (1) include, as appropriate, wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point sources and load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources, (2) consider the impacts of background pollutant contributions, (3) take critical stream conditions into account (the conditions when water quality is most likely to be violated), (4) consider seasonal variations, (5) include a margin of safety (which accounts for uncertainties in the relationship between pollutant loads and instream water quality), and (6) be subject to public participation. The enclosure to this letter describes how the TMDL for Mountain Run satisfies each of these requirements.

According to 40 CFR 122.44 (d) (vii) (B) "Effluent limits developed to protect a narrative water quality criteria, numeric water quality criteria, or both, are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available wasteload allocation for the discharge prepared by the State and approved by EPA under 40 CFR 130.7." The TMDL currently has the urban runoff loading under the load allocation. Prior to the Town of Culpeper's MS-4 permit issuance, the TMDL must be modified to allow sufficient capacity under the total WLA for the new point source, i.e. the discharge covered by the MS-4 permit. EPA expects the State to submit the TMDL modifications to EPA for review and approval before the MS-4 permit is issued. If you have any further questions, please call me or have your staff contact Mr. Thomas Henry, the TMDL Program Manager at 215-814-5752.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Hanmer, Director  
Water Protection Division

Enclosure

